

Lamiaceae and Verbenaceae includes 1) a table comparing the two families as they are circumscribed in the book, and 2) a branching diagram illustrating the relative positions of groups of Mints and Verbs. This explanatory approach allows the reader to understand the reasoning behind statements of relationship, rather than having to accept the dogma of relationships that exists in many taxonomic texts.

There is a richly illustrated glossary at the end of the book, along with one appendix that covers Cronquist's scheme of family relationships, and a chart summarizing the characteristics of the families covered in the book. The latter will be especially appreciated by students.

The only problem we had with the book is based on our western North American perspective. We are dismayed that the Hydrophyllaceae, Garryaceae, Fouquieriaceae, and Limnanthaceae were not included. We were also disappointed that the "little aquatic monocots" (e.g., Potamogetonaceae, Zanicelliaceae, Zosteraceae, Hydrocharitaceae, Juncaginaceae) were left out—all the more dismaying because Zomlefer's drawings of these families would be a great aid to those of us who are not aquatically-minded. We hereby make a plea here for future editions to include families that are important in the west, even if they aren't well-represented in the east.

A plant taxonomy course where family relationships are a component is sure to benefit from Zomlefer's book. It does more than list characters—it stimulates interest. The book will also serve professional and lay botanists as a reference on family characteristics and relationships. To be sure, as systematic research continues to resolve relationships among families, parts of this book will become dated. Nevertheless, Zomlefer has provided a first step toward a modern text in plant taxonomy. Finally, it is inexpensive, a bargain at less than \$30.

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Revision of the Genus Sambucus. Dissertation Botanica, vol. 223, pp. [i-ii], 1-227-[256]. By RICHARD BOLLI. 1994. From E. Schweizerbart'sche Verlagsbuchhandlung, Johannesstrasse 3A, D-70176 Stuttgart 1, Germany. Softcover US\$45.51. ISBN 3-443-64135-0.

This new worldwide monograph (the work is much more than a mere "revision") on *Sambucus* uses morphology, anatomy, ecology, karyology, and biochemistry to recognize nine species (*S. ebulus* with 2 subspp.; *S. wightiana*; *S. adnata*; *S. gaudichaudiana*; *S. australasica*; *S. javanica*; *S. nigra* with 6 subspp.; *S. australis*; *S. racemosa* with 2 var.), eight subspecies, and two varieties. Bolli reduces some commonly accepted species to subspecies or varieties. For instance, relevant to *The Jepson Manual's* (1993) treatment of Californian taxa of *Sambucus*, according to Bolli *S. melanocarpa* becomes *S. racemosa* var. *melanocarpa*, *S. mexicana* becomes *S. nigra* subsp. *canadensis*, and *S. racemosa* var. *microbotrys* (this is not in Bolli's synonymy) and var. *racemosa* become *S. racemosa* var. *racemosa*. Bolli's two evolutionary scenarios both postulate "herbaceous *Sambucus* . . . , probably having evolved in Central Asia, . . . to represent the ancestral group" leading "independently" to "the woody taxa of both the Far East and the Western Hemisphere." *Viburnum* and *Adoxa* seem most closely related, but Bolli favors Sambucaceae excluded from Caprifoliaceae and Dipsacales. This important dissertation done at Zürich should not be overlooked due to the rather low circulation of *Dissertationes Botanica*.

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